

comments in 2003 and 2004 on possible reporting reforms. The EPA subsequently proposed and revised a Form A and took additional public comments on that proposal, and they came up with a plan that works. It alleviates the burden and it still has 99 percent of the current information now reported on a different form, on Form R. This is going to reduce the cost for small businesses. It is going to allow us to continue to have the reporting on these toxic release inventories.

But let me just tell you the impact on one of the local small businesses. Nancy Klinefelter is president of Baltimore Glassware Decorators. Her small business specializes in printing small quantities of custom glass and ceramicware for special occasions. Some of Nancy's work can even be found in the House Gift Shop right here. When they print these mugs or glasses for customers, they sometimes use lead-bearing colors on the outside surfaces. These colors are expensive; so they use only a minimal amount of paint needed, which reduces waste, and the finishing process ensures that none of the lead leaches out. So their products are completely safe for anyone who uses them. I am even told that the EPA sells her products in their gift shop. But because of this Toxic Release Inventory lead rule, Nancy's business is forced to compile daily records on how much color is used for the mugs because the colors contain a very small amount of lead. Each year her small business then has to report to the EPA how much lead has been used. This may sound like some innocuous rule, but the truth is it costs Nancy \$7,000 annually. When you add up all the other small businesses, it is over \$70 million every year.

And what do Americans get for this? Do they get cleaner air? No. Do they get less lead being used? No. Is there less exposure to lead by children because of this? No. The answer is none of these things. All the American people get are thousands of reports on estimates on how much lead is being used. Many reports are never read, and our air is not any cleaner. The average citizen does not gain any public health benefits. Instead, small businesses have to comply with the EPA reporting rule and are literally wasting tens of millions of dollars every year, and it is costing us good-paying jobs. These jobs end up in other countries, offshore.

Rather than focussing on reducing the real pollution and focusing on real pollution cleanup, EPA has to spend an inordinate amount of time on these small reports that nobody ever uses. Now, with an average cost of \$21,919 per employee for small businesses that have less than 20 employees, is a lot of money. It could be reinvested and create more jobs. But, instead, it is just reporting paperwork that piles up.

The gentleman has good intents on having clean air and clean water, a clean environment, and I support that. But striking this language will not

make the environment any cleaner. It will only cost us jobs. Again, ninety-nine percent of the same information will still be reported under the reforms conducted by EPA and put in place correctly by EPA.

So for that reason I rise in opposition to the gentleman's proposal, and I encourage all my colleagues to vote against this amendment.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

The amendment would block the EPA from changing the reporting requirements for toxic releases. I appreciate the proponent's concerns that the information on toxic releases should be reported in a timely manner and that this information should be publicly available. These concerns are shared by many State and local officials.

On the other hand, I believe that some accommodation should be made by EPA for small businesses that have no toxic releases or have only trace amounts of toxic releases.

I am prepared to accept the amendment today with the understanding that we will work with EPA to determine how we can accomplish the amendment's goals without placing unnecessary reporting burdens on businesses that release no toxics or have only trace amounts.

I commend the amendment's authors for pursuing this and look forward to working with EPA on that matter.

□ 1545

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) having assumed the chair, Mr. FOLEY, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

LIMITING AMENDMENTS DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5386, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 5386 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to House Resolution 818, notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no further amendments to the bill may be offered except:

Pro forma amendments offered at any point in the reading by the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate;

Amendments printed in the RECORD and numbered 1 and 7;

The amendment printed in the RECORD and numbered 6, which shall be debatable for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. PUTNAM regarding a moratorium on drilling in the OCS, which shall be debatable for 60 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. CHABOT regarding a limitation on funds for roads in the Tongass National Forest, which shall be debatable for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. OBERSTAR regarding a limitation on funds for activities under the Clean Water Act, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. HINCHEY regarding a limitation on funds for suspension of royalty relief, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. OBEY or Mr. DICKS addressing global climate change by modifying the amount provided for EPA Environmental Programs and Management, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. OBEY regarding funding increases for various accounts with a tax offset;

An amendment by Mr. TIAHRT regarding business competitiveness;

An amendment by Mr. GARY MILLER of California regarding the San Gabriel Watershed;

An amendment by Mr. CONAWAY regarding EPA drinking water regulations for arsenic;

An amendment by Mr. GORDON regarding Federal building energy use;

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas regarding a limitation on funds for urban reforestation;

An amendment by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas regarding a limitation on funds on Smithsonian outreach programs;

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey regarding Federal employee travel to conferences;

An amendment by Mr. DENT regarding a limitation on funds to enforce the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act;

An amendment by Mr. ANDREWS regarding Forest Service salaries and expenses;

An amendment by Mr. MEEHAN regarding EPA national emissions standards;

An amendment by Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina regarding funding for various accounts;

An amendment by Mr. BEAUPREZ regarding funding for wildland fire management;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding any Iowa State University project on mitigating emissions from egg farms;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding funding for ivory-billed woodpecker research;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding funding for Neosha National Fish Hatchery;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding funding for the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding Santa Ana River Wash program;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding staffing for the National Zoological Park;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding NFS recreation sites in North Carolina;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding citrus studies in Florida;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding the Florida National Scenic Trail;

An amendment by Mr. FLAKE regarding the Continental Divide National Trail.

Each such amendment may be offered only by the Member named in this request or a designee, or by the Member who caused it to be printed in the RECORD or a designee, shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment except that the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and the Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies each may offer one pro forma amendment for the purpose of debate; and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

Except as otherwise specified, each amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. An amendment shall be considered to fit the description stated in this request if it addresses in whole or in part the object described.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I don't intend to object, but I do want to point out to each and every Member that if this unanimous consent agreement is accepted by the body, the way I count it, that means that we will go to about 12 o'clock tonight before we begin to vote. I ask that Members remember that as they are entertaining their enthusiasm for offering a number of these amendments tonight. It just seems to me that Members need to know that this is going to take a long, long time; and we

would appreciate it being shortened by people whenever it is possible to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 818 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5386.

□ 1553

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5386) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, with Mr. FOLEY (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) had been postponed and the bill had been read through page 73, line 8.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, no further amendment to the bill may be offered except those specified in the previous order of the House of today, which is at the desk.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SEC. 201. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of, or to delay the implementation of, Executive Order No. 12898 of February 11, 1994 (59 Fed. Reg. 7629; relating to Federal actions to address environmental justice in minority populations and low-income populations).

SEC. 202. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of 15 U.S.C. 2682(c)(3) or to delay the implementation of that section.

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For necessary expenses of forest and rangeland research as authorized by law, \$280,318,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, \$62,329,000 is for the forest inventory and analysis program.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

For necessary expenses of cooperating with and providing technical and financial assistance to States, territories, possessions, and others, and for forest health management, including treatments of pests, pathogens, and invasive or noxious plants and for restoring and rehabilitating forests damaged

by pests or invasive plants, cooperative forestry, and education and land conservation activities and conducting an international program as authorized, \$228,608,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized by law of which \$9,280,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided under this heading for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands shall be available until the Forest Service notifies the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Appropriations, in writing, of specific contractual and grant details including the non-Federal cost share.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, for management, protection, improvement, and utilization of the National Forest System, \$1,445,659,000, to remain available until expended, which shall include 50 percent of all moneys received during prior fiscal years as fees collected under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended, in accordance with section 4 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 4601-6a(1)): *Provided*, That unobligated balances under this heading available at the start of fiscal year 2007 shall be displayed by budget line item in the fiscal year 2008 budget justification.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for forest fire suppression activities on National Forest System lands, for emergency fire suppression on or adjacent to such lands or other lands under fire protection agreement, hazardous fuels reduction on or adjacent to such lands, and for emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water, \$1,810,566,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds including unobligated balances under this heading, are available for repayment of advances from other appropriations accounts previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to reimburse State and other cooperating entities for services provided in response to wildfire and other emergencies or disasters to the extent such reimbursements by the Forest Service for non-fire emergencies are fully repaid by the responsible emergency management agency: *Provided further*, That not less than 50 percent of any unobligated balances remaining (exclusive of amounts for hazardous fuels reduction) at the end of fiscal years 2006 and 2007 shall be transferred to the fund established pursuant to section 3 of Public Law 71-319 (16 U.S.C. 576 et seq.) if necessary to reimburse the fund for unpaid past advances: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$8,000,000 of funds appropriated under this appropriation shall be used for Fire Science Research in support of the Joint Fire Science Program: *Provided further*, That all authorities for the use of funds, including the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements, available to execute the Forest and Rangeland Research appropriation, are also available in the utilization of these funds for Fire Science Research: *Provided further*, That funds provided shall be available for emergency rehabilitation and restoration, hazardous fuels reduction activities in the urban-wildland interface, support to Federal emergency response, and wildfire suppression activities of the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, \$296,792,000 is for hazardous fuels reduction activities, \$5,000,000 is for rehabilitation and restoration, \$22,800,000 is for research activities and to make competitive research grants pursuant to the Forest and Rangeland